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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

August 31, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Federal Communications Commission  
455 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Ultra Wideband, ET Docket 98-153

Dear Ms Salas,

I am writing in response to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule Making on ultra-wideband radio. I have been in the field of gerontology since the mid-70s and the field of alzheimer's since the early 80s. Presently, I am the Community Resource Coordinator (public relations and social worker) of Rush Senior Health Center and Director of the East Central Alzheimer's Association Branch Office in Meridian, Mississippi. I can see how this ultra-wideband radio would be very beneficial to our elders and their families of East Central Mississippi, as well as nationwide.

Meridian, Mississippi is designated as a "retirement community" which means this area must have resources to meet the needs of retirees. Our city's "Retirement Connection" office solicits nationwide and encourages retirees to consider this area for their retirement years. Our community has three hospitals, a number of assisted living and personal care homes, as well as nursing homes, and one adult day care center.

At the Senior Health Center, our doctors and staff medically treat, educate and provide services to those over 65. We provide information and resources to take care of your self, to stay healthier longer and to be as independent as long as possible. Most people would prefer to stay in their own home as long as possible. The ultra wideband radio system would be an outstanding resource to help in the independence arena and keep people out of the high cost medical care areas.

Approximately four million Americans have Alzheimer's or related dementia. In an eight county area in East Central Mississippi, there is an estimated 4,500 people with dementia. "Wandering" is a major problem with this disease. In the search and rescue of these individuals, they are found within a median distance of .5 miles, are a short distance

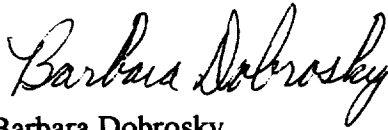
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from a road, do not respond to cries for help or response to shouts, leave few physical clues and succumb to the environment. The National Alzheimer's Association has a nationwide "Safe Return" program that could be greatly enhanced by adding the wideband technology to this search and rescue program.

On behalf of the elders of this community and surrounding area, as well as nationwide, I am encouraging the FCC to move quickly and positively on the decision to permit research and development of this ultra wideband technology.

I believe the development of this technology would result in continued independence, lives saved and reduction of health care costs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Dobrosky". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name "Barbara" being more prominent than the last name "Dobrosky".

Barbara Dobrosky